

Message Text

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ACTION LAB-04

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-13 ISO-00 SIL-01 L-03 CIAE-00
INR-07 NSAE-00 /041 W
-----092013Z 100903 /66

P R 091835Z MAY 77
FM AMEMBASSY MADRID
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 193
INFO AMEMBASSY BONN
AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS
AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN
AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE
AMEMBASSY LISBON
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY OSLO
AMEMBASSY PARIS
USMISSION NATO
USMISSION EC BRUSSELS
USMISSION GENEVA PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L MADRID 3593

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PLAB, ILO, SP
SUBJECT: ILO - 63RD INTERNATIONAL LABOR CONFERENCE (ILC)

REF: (A) STATE 102699, (B) STATE 103405, (C) STATE 104925

1. FOLLOWING INSTRUCTIONS IN REFTEL A, EMBASSY ON MAY 9
DELIVERED TEXT OF AIDE-MEMOIRE (REFTEL B) TO THE NUMBER TWO
MAN IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOR, SUBSECRETARY FRANCISCO JAVIER
DE ISTURIZ. ISTURIZ WAS A PARTICULARLY APPROPRIATE OFFICIAL
TO RECEIVE OUR DEMARCHE. IN AS MUCH AS HE WILL BE THE TOP
SPANISH GOVERNMENT DELEGATE TO THE 63RD ILO CONFERENCE. I SHALL
OF COURSE FOLLOW UP WITH THE MINISTER OF LABOR AND THE FOREIGN
MINISTER AT THE EARLIEST OPPORTUNITY (REFTEL C). WHILE WE USED
THE TALKING POINTS SUGGESTED IN REFTEL A EMBASSY WOULD
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APPRECIATE RECEIVING THE SPANISH TRANSLATION OFFERED
IN PARA 6 OF REFTEL B.

2. ISTURIZ' REACTION WAS POSITIVE. HE COMMENTED THAT
HE FULLY UNDERSTOOD OUR CONCERN AND THE CRITICAL IMPORTANCE
OF THE JUNE ILO CONFERENCE, AND PROMISED TO BRING THE
MATTER TO THE ATTENTION OF THE MINISTER OF LABOR WITHOUT

DELAY. CONFIRMING THAT HE WOULD BE SPAIN'S GOVERNMENT DELEGATE, HE LOOKED FORWARD TO MEETING WITH THE U.S. DELEGATION IN GENEVA. HE ALSO PINPOINTED THE AGENDA ITEM DELAING WITH FREEDOM OF ASSOCIATION IN THE PUBLIC SERVICE AS A PARTICULARLY SENSITIVE ITEM. ISTURIZ REMARKED THAT HE EXPECTED SOME FIREWORKS WITH RESPECT TO THE PROBLEMS OF TRADE UNIONS IN ARGENTINA AND CHILE. FINALLY, HE WAS IN FULL AGREEMENT THAT THE ILO'S CONTRIBUTIONS WERE TO BE MADE IN THE TECHNICAL FIELD, AND THAT IT SHOULD NOT ENGAGE IN POLITICAL ADVENTURES.

3. ON THE FOREIGN MINISTRY SIDE, THE SAME AIDE-MEMOIRE WAS DELIVERED ON MAY 9 TO THE SUB-DIRECTOR GENERAL FOR SPECIALIZED AGENCIES, RAMON ORTI. IT WAS HIS HOPE THAT THE PROGRESS MADE AT THE FEBRUARY-MARCH SESSION OF THE ILO GOVERNING BODY MIGHT SET THE TONE FOR A SUCCESSFUL 63RD ILO CONFERENCE IN TERMS OF U.S. EXPECTATIONS. THE SPANISH AMBASSADOR FROM THEIR MISSION IN GENEVA WAS CURRENTLY IN MADRID, AND ORTI INDICATED HE WOULD PASS ON OUR VIEWS. ALTHOUGH THE SPANISH DELEGATION HAD NOT YET BEEN SELECTED, ORTI EXPECTED IT TO BE PARTICULARLY STRONG THIS YEAR.

4. SPAIN'S WORKER DELEGATE AND EMPLOYER DELEGATE HAVE NOT YET BEEN DESIGNATED, ALTHOUGH WE EXPECT UGT SECGEN NICOLAS REDONDO (CURRENTLY VISITING U.S.) TO FILL THE FORMER SLOT. EMBASSY WILL APPROACH BOTH DELEGATES WHEN THEY ARE NAMED. STABLER

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